

King County Parks **Your** King County **Big Backyard**

King County
Parks and Recreation Division



2007
Third Quarter Report
Parks Omnibus Ordinance Report
to the King County Council
January – September 2007

we're at work so you can play

Highlights of the Third Quarter

- ❖ Overall, revenues through the third quarter are up slightly from the same period in 2006. Traditional field use revenues have risen, particularly at Marymoor Park, due to the four newly renovated artificial turf soccer fields.
- ❖ In August, Starbucks Chairman Howard Schultz and director/producer Norman Lear paid a visit to the newly remodeled White Center Heights Park. Their visit was filmed as part of the award-winning Sundance Channel series “The Iconoclasts”, which first aired on November 15, 2007. The episode chronicles Schultz’s efforts to establish the Starbucks Coffee Company and to incorporate community philanthropy as a corporate value. In the episode, Schultz and Lear tour the park and discuss the importance of engaging community and building places where friends and families can gather and enjoy the outdoors.
- ❖ The Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center has been awarded several major national events that it will host in 2008 and 2009, including:
 - 2008 NCAA Championships
 - US Open, Swimming (international, 5-day event, 1000+ athletes)
 - Speedo Junior National Swimming Championship (national, 5-day event, 1000+ athletes)
 - Speedo junior National Synchronized Swimming Championship (national, 4-day event, 300 athletes)
- ❖ On Labor Day weekend, Tolt-MacDonald Park and Campground inaugurated six yurts available for public rental. The yurts have been a popular addition the park, both in terms of strong initial rentals and in attracting the attention of hikers, mountain bikers, and other park users.

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Parks and Recreation Division

2007 Third Quarter Report

Introduction

The Omnibus Parks Ordinance (Ordinance 14509), adopted November 18, 2002, by the King County Council, included this reporting requirement for the Parks and Recreation Division:

“The division shall provide a written report to the council, filed with the clerk of the council, at least four times each year, by March 15, June 15, September 15, and December 15, and more frequently as directed by the council by motion, regarding the execution of the division’s duties and responsibilities as established in K.C.C. 2.16.045.E. Following transmittal of each written report, the division shall also make an oral presentation to the council. The written reports and oral presentations shall include, but shall not be limited to, information as to the division’s efforts in:

- A. Meeting revenue targets under section 7 of this ordinance;*
- B. Implementing entrepreneurial strategies including advertising, leasing and concession agreements;*
- C. Pursuing gifts, bequests and donations, including the value and sources of gifts, bequests and donations received;*
- D. Developing agreements with other organizations to provide recreation services;*
- E. Transferring parks and recreation assets within incorporated areas or potential annexation areas to cities; and*
- F. Community outreach and involvement.”*

This is our fifth year reporting on the accomplishments of the Division. Quarterly reports were transmitted for each quarter in 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006. The year 2007 also marks the fourth year of the Parks Levy fund, which was approved by the voters in 2003, with collections to run from January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2007.

We have structured the quarterly report to correspond to the ordinance requirements. We welcome your ideas and input. Please do not hesitate to contact Kevin Brown or Tom Koney of the King County Parks and Recreation Division at 206-296-8687 if you have any questions or suggestions.

Revenues - Summary

Parks and Recreation Division Revenues

Total Adopted Revenues, 2007	\$22,097,958
Total Estimated Revenues, 2007	\$22,173,579
Total Actual Revenues, 2006	\$22,120,229

Third Quarter - Business Revenues Only

Levy funds, interest earnings, interfund transfers and similar revenues that are not within the control of the Division are excluded from this total.

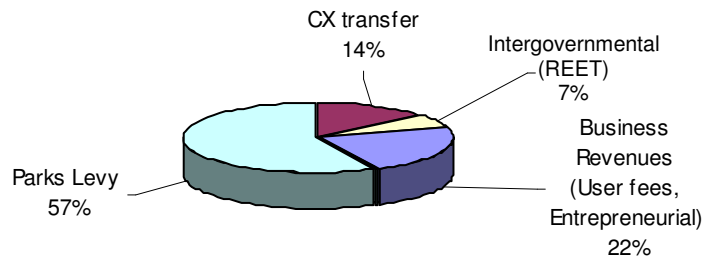
Actual Business Revenues¹ (includes user fees and enterprise and entrepreneurial revenues)

January 1 – September 30, 2007	\$4,263,645
January 1 – September 30, 2006	\$4,260,312

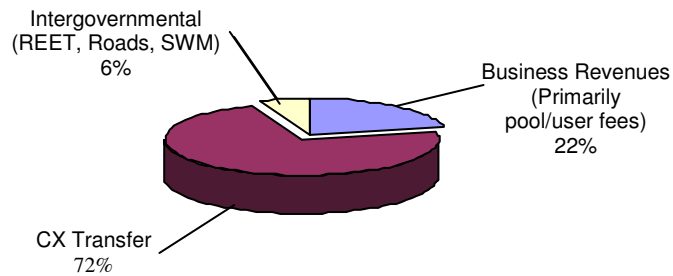
Third quarter actual business revenues in 2007 were similar to the same period in 2006. Even with a reduced asset base (due to transfer of facilities), business revenues still comprise approximately 22% of the total Parks Revenue budget, the same percentage as in 2002, at the beginning of the Business Plan (see charts, following page). The ensuing period has seen transfers of facilities, mostly pools, which generated more than \$2,000,000 in revenues. The business revenue forecast on the remaining assets has risen from a total of approximately \$2.3 million in 2002 to nearly \$5 million in the 2007 adopted budget.

¹ Based on ARMS financial reports.

2007 Adopted Revenues - \$22M



2002 Adopted Revenues - \$26M



Expenditures – Summary

Parks and Recreation Division Expenditures

2007 Adopted Expenditures	\$23,084,309
2007 Revised Expenditures ²	\$23,848,148
2006 Adopted Expenditures	\$20,888,426
2006 Revised Expenditures ³	\$22,212,171
2006 Actual Expenditures ⁴	\$21,155,007

Third Quarter 2007 - Actual Expenditures

January 1 - September 30, 2007	\$16,481,684
January 1 - September 30, 2006	\$15,986,505

With three-fourths of the year having passed, expenditures were 73% of the Division's annual expenditure budget. This expenditure pattern is in line with historic business trends.

In 2006, the Division underexpended its budget by approximately 3%, including carryover encumbrances. In the early years of the levy, the Division deliberately underexpended the budget. The Division was being frugal, due to the uncertain nature of business revenues and the need to build a prudent fund balance. In January 2004, the Division began with a fund balance of zero, but the fund balance in the levy fund now achieves the financial planning target. The Division continues to look for ways to increase efficiencies and control expenditures. Now that it has achieved its target fund balance, the Division intends to continue to more fully expend its appropriated budget on maintaining and operating parks and facilities in 2007, just as it did in 2006. As long as target fund balance is achieved, the Division intends to spend the maximum amount of its expenditure authority on maintaining parks, using levy funds as the voters intended.

² Reflects automated carryover, 2007 1st and 2nd Quarter Omnibus Ordinances and Supplemental Ordinance 15894.

³ Reflects 1st Quarter Omnibus Ordinance.

⁴ 2006 figures are per 2006 ARMS.

Revenues - Implementing the Business Plan

Key Business Units

Marymoor Park



Marymoor Business Unit

	2007 thru Q3	2006 thru Q3	Change (\$)	Change (%)
Traditional				
Rev - facilities	\$108,536	\$154,926	(\$46,390)	-30%
Rev - fields	\$550,563	\$164,531	\$386,032	235%
Non-Traditional				
Rev - parking	\$343,207	\$289,786	\$53,421	18%
Rev - campground***	\$0	\$12,104	(\$12,104)	-100%
Rev - concerts	\$144,998	\$142,177	\$2,822	2%
Rev - concert ticket sales	\$8,078	\$3,976	\$4,102	103%
Rev - Subway	\$17,798	\$15,927	\$1,871	12%
Rev - Pet Garden	\$4,500	\$750	\$3,750	500%
Sponsors/concessions	\$38,931	\$40,461	(\$1,530)	-4%
Cirque	\$0	\$552,600	(\$552,600)	-100%
Naming rights**	\$115,000	\$105,000	\$10,000	10%
Revenues - Total (rounded)	\$1,332,000	\$1,482,000	(\$150,000)	-10%
Expenditures (rounded)*	\$1,532,000	\$1,459,000	\$73,000	5%

* Expenditures include only direct costs and do not include maintenance labor loaned in from other work units ("loan-in labor"). In the year-end (4th Quarter) report, annual expenditures will be reported with annual revenues and compared against the cost-recovery targets established in Ordinance 14509.

** Revenue from Group Health Velodrome was received in the 3rd quarter and has not yet presented in accounts; however it is reflected in this table.

*** No camping occurred at Marymoor in 2007. In 2006, a special allowance for camping was made for specific performances at the concert venue.

Third Quarter highlights include:

- ❖ Overall, revenues received at Marymoor Park through the 3rd quarter of 2007 are down from 2006. This is mainly because the Cirque du Soleil did not visit Marymoor in 2007 as it had in 2006. Cirque is scheduled to return to Marymoor in April 2008. Revenue from most other categories has increased.
- ❖ Traditional field use revenues are up dramatically, reflecting revenues brought in from the recently renovated artificial turf soccer fields.
- ❖ Revenue from the summer concert series is similar to 2006; this has become a steady source of entrepreneurial revenue for the Division.
- ❖ Marymoor hosted several first-time events in the 3rd quarter, generating more than \$30,000 in new revenue. We expect many of these groups to return in 2008. Events included:
 - BMX / Skateboard event for youth
(Labor Day weekend, used the Recreation/Event Area) \$3,000
 - Kumbha Mela Festival of India
(used the concert venue and drew more than 5,000 visitors over the three days of Labor Day Weekend): \$12,000
 - City Church Picnic
(used the concert venue and surrounding area and drew 6,000) \$12,000
 - Gaelic Football Tournament
(on the MacNair Activity Field): \$1,400
 - Bocce Ball Tournament / Fundraiser: \$900
 - Cycle Washington \$1,000
 - Sober Stock Festival \$2,500
- ❖ The Division purchased a coin counting machine to assist the Parking Program, which has helped to improve accuracy and to reduce staff time necessary for this task.

Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center



Aquatic Center Business Unit

	2007 thru Q3	2006 thru Q3	Change (\$)	Change (%)
Traditional				
Rev - facilities	\$458,303	\$482,814	(\$24,511)	-5%
Rev - courses	\$106,840	\$120,591	(\$13,751)	-11%
Rev - drop in	\$34,677	\$44,725	(\$10,048)	-22%
Rev - Conference Center	\$32,091	\$25,794	\$6,297	24%
Non-Traditional				
Rev - Subway	\$14,229	\$18,115	(\$3,886)	-21%
Rev - concessions	\$1,243	\$589	\$654	111%
Revenues - Total (rounded)	\$647,000	\$693,000	(\$46,000)	-7%
Expenditures (rounded)*	\$1,333,000	\$1,158,000	\$175,000	15%

* Expenditures include only direct costs and do not include maintenance labor loaned in from other work units ("loan-in labor"). In the year-end (4th Quarter) report, annual expenditures will be reported with annual revenues and compared against the cost-recovery targets established in Ordinance 14509.

Third Quarter highlights include:

- ❖ Overall, Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center (WKCAC) revenues are down slightly from 2006. Lesson registrations and drop-in swims are tracking lower than in 2006, as a result of the facility closure (for a capital improvement project) in January and February 2007. A maintenance closure for two weeks in August further impacted these programs (no closures occurred in 2006). Expenditures have risen compared to last year, due to an increase in the cost of fuel, electricity and labor.
- ❖ Team rental revenues were also negatively impacted by the August maintenance closure, as was the rotation of the August Speedo Champs to a location in Oregon.
- ❖ The WKCAC is in the process of replacing the natatorium lights with more efficient fixtures, which will lead to overall cost savings. Puget Sound Energy has reviewed the plans and a contractor has been selected. Other cost-saving projects include improving the efficiency of the natatorium heaters and PoolPaks, which should reduce the use of natural gas and electricity.
- ❖ The WKCAC reached an agreement with University of Washington Athletic Department to bring Husky swimming dual meets to the Aquatic Center September through January. This new venture breaks the UW tradition of holding all home meets at on-campus facilities. Our strong relationship with the UW swimming program continues with the 59th Annual Husky Invitational, which held at the Aquatic Center in November. We're also holding regular planning committee meetings in preparation for the March 2008 NCAA Men's Swimming and Diving Championships.
- ❖ In September, the WKCAC was awarded all three bids placed for major events in 2009. Announcements were made at the annual United States Aquatic Sports Conference in Los Angeles:
 - US Open, Swimming (international, 5-day event, 1000+ athletes)
 - Speedo Junior National Swimming Championship (national, 5-day event, 1000+ athletes)
 - Speedo junior National Synchronized Swimming Championship (national, 4-day event, 300 athletes)
- ❖ The Seattle Sports Commission will be bringing the 2008 NCAA Championships to the Aquatic Center in March 2008, with the King County Parks and Recreation Division receiving a percentage of the event's net profit as well as the facility rental fee.

King County Fair in Enumclaw



Fair Business Unit*

	2007 thru Q3	2006 thru Q3	Change (\$)	Change (%)
Traditional				
Rev - facilities	\$15,718	\$112,997	(\$97,279)	-86%
Rev - Annual Fair	\$384,092	\$423,724	(\$39,632)	-9%
Non-Traditional				
Rev - campgrounds	\$0	\$15,579	(\$15,579)	-100%
Revenues - Total (rounded)	\$400,000	\$552,000	(\$152,000)	-28%
Expenditures (rounded)**	\$419,000	\$823,000	(\$404,000)	-49%

* The Division transferred the Fairgrounds to the City of Enumclaw at the end of 2006.

** Expenditures include only direct costs and do not include maintenance labor loaned in from other work units ("loan-in labor"). In the year-end (4th Quarter) report, annual expenditures will be reported with annual revenues and compared against the cost-recovery targets established in Ordinance 14509.

Third Quarter highlights include:

- ❖ The 145th King County Fair was held in mid-July, with the theme of “Dance to the Moosic”. Due to record-setting days of rain, attendance was lower than anticipated, which also contributed to a decline in revenues.
- ❖ This was the first year the Division has operated the fair without owning the Fairgrounds (the Fairgrounds transferred to the City of Enumclaw at the end of 2006).
- ❖ The differences between 2006 and 2007 revenues and expenditures are primarily due to the transfer of the Fairgrounds to the City of Enumclaw. The Division still operates the fair. As a result of this transfer, revenues and expenditures are both down compared to 2006. However, expenditures decreased by much more than did revenues, reflecting substantial net savings to the Division. Fair revenues this year were dampened by rainy weather that occurred throughout the fair schedule.
- ❖ The fair’s five days of great entertainment included the 2nd Annual Demolition Derby, local and regional musical acts, and the ever popular pig races. There were nearly 1,000 4H/FFA exhibitors and some 350 Open Class exhibitors entering everything from cookies to quilts.
- ❖ The fair’s poster, which was drawn by a local Enumclaw artist, won first place in the artistic category at the Washington State Fair Association’s convention.

Recreation, Ballfields and Facilities



Ballfields and Recreation Business Unit

	2007 thru Q3	2006 thru Q3	Change (\$)	Change (%)
Traditional				
Rev - Ballfields	\$205,616	\$226,781	(\$21,165)	-9%
Rev - Facilities	\$135,611	\$141,823	(\$6,212)	-4%
Non-Traditional			\$0	
Rev - RV Camping	\$39,454	\$37,595	\$1,859	5%
Revenues - Total (rounded)	\$381,000	\$406,000	(\$25,000)	-6%

Note: Annual expenditure information on facilities and ballfields will be discussed in the Fourth Quarter Report.

Third Quarter highlights include:

- ❖ Overall, revenue from ballfields and other recreational facilities is slightly down compared to 2006. Due to storm damage, several athletic fields opened later than normal, negatively impacting field revenues.
- ❖ On Labor Day weekend, Tolt-MacDonald Park and Campground inaugurated six yurts available for public rental. The yurts have been a popular addition the park, both in terms of strong initial rentals and in attracting the attention of hikers, mountain bikers, and other park users.

Swimming Pools



Swimming Pools (other than the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center)
includes: Evergreen, Renton, Vashon and Cottage Lake Facilities

	2007 thru Q3	2006 thru Q3	Change (\$)	Change (%)
Traditional				
Rev - Pool Fees	\$483,943	\$509,468	(\$25,525)	-5%
Rev – Concessions**	\$262	\$707	(\$445)	-63%
Revenues – Total (rounded)	\$484,000	\$510,000	(\$26,000)	-5%
Expenditures (rounded)*	\$910,000	\$796,000	\$114,000	14%

* Expenditures include only direct costs and do not include maintenance labor loaned in from other work units ("loan-in labor") or costs associated with aquatic administration. In the year-end (4th Quarter) report, overall annual expenditures will be reported with annual revenues and compared against the cost-recovery targets established in Ordinance 14509.

** Some revenue was misallocated into this category in the first two quarterly reports. More detail will be provided in the year-end (4th Quarter) report.

Third Quarter highlights include:

- ❖ Overall, revenues from pools other than the WKCAC are down slightly from 2006. At least two factors contributed to this:
 - Poor summer weather, which had a negative impact on the two outdoor pools; and
 - The Vashon Country Club's new offer of swimming lessons to non-members, which has posed serious competition for the first time at the Vashon Pool.
- ❖ Cottage Lake pool saw an increase in revenue in the month of July, following the installation of the new spiral waterslide.
- ❖ Together, the four pools offered more individual swimming lessons than in 2006. More than 55,000 were served during the summer without any serious accidents or injuries. Some activities included:
 - Friday night "float-in movies" at Renton and Evergreen pools.
 - "Summer Splash-tacular" free water safety events at Vashon and Cottage Lake, which taught some 200 participants about reaching and throwing assists, life jacket skills, games and other fun activities.

- Six lifeguard trainings were given in White Center, Renton, and on Vashon Island. Several of the lifeguard students were later hired by King County as lifeguards at the pools.
- ❖ Evergreen Pool worked with several partners to sponsor disadvantaged youth from the White Center community to participate in public swimming and lesson programs. These generous partners included Neighborhood School, Pacifica (through Seattle Gospel Mission), PALS (Police Activities League Service), Roots to Wings Daycare, and Harborview Hospital.

Implementing Entrepreneurial Strategies New Ways of Raising Revenues

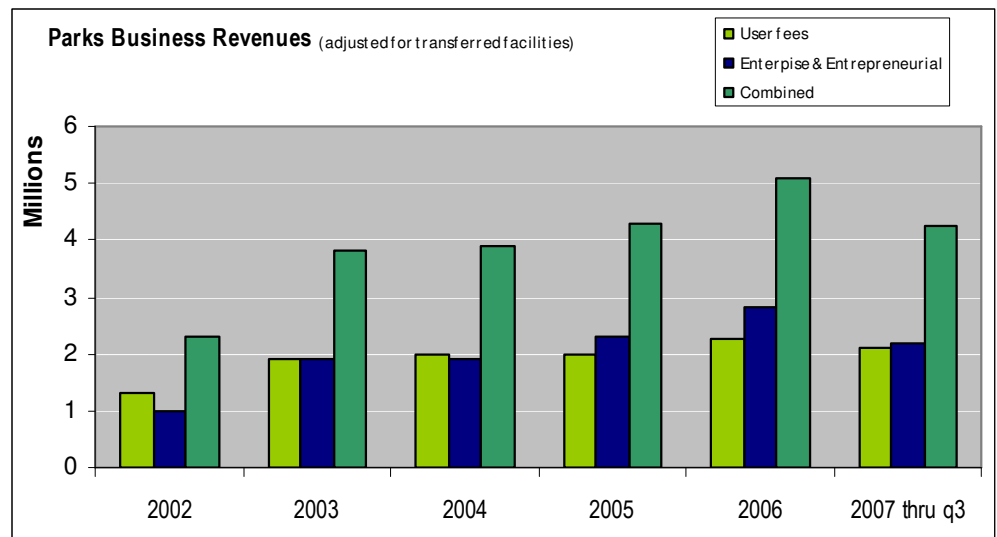


Entrepreneurial Strategies

The Division has been maximizing enterprise and entrepreneurial revenues and exploring other actions that minimize the tax subsidy needed for active recreation facilities. The Division will continue to foster and develop corporate, non-profit and community-based partnerships in an effort to increase revenues and leverage Revenue Enhancement and Opportunity Fund capital dollars.

Overall business revenues include enterprise and entrepreneurial revenues and user fee revenues.

The Division defines enterprise and entrepreneurial revenues to include a myriad of non-traditional activities, ranging from corporate sponsorships,



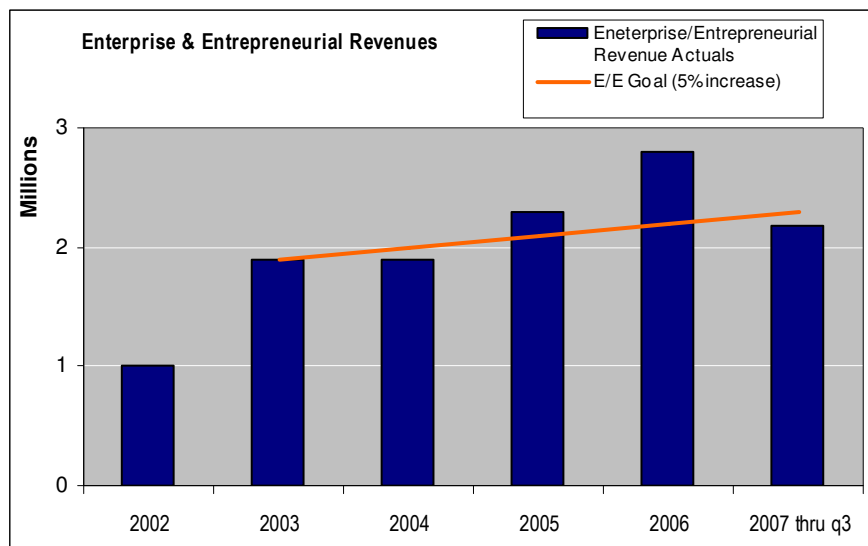
parking, and facility rentals (such as the concert series and Cirque du Soleil). These are generated largely as a result of the cultivation efforts of the Division's entrepreneurial team. User fee revenues are the more traditional recreational activities, such as pool fees, field rentals, and recreational programs. These revenues are based upon what the market will bear.

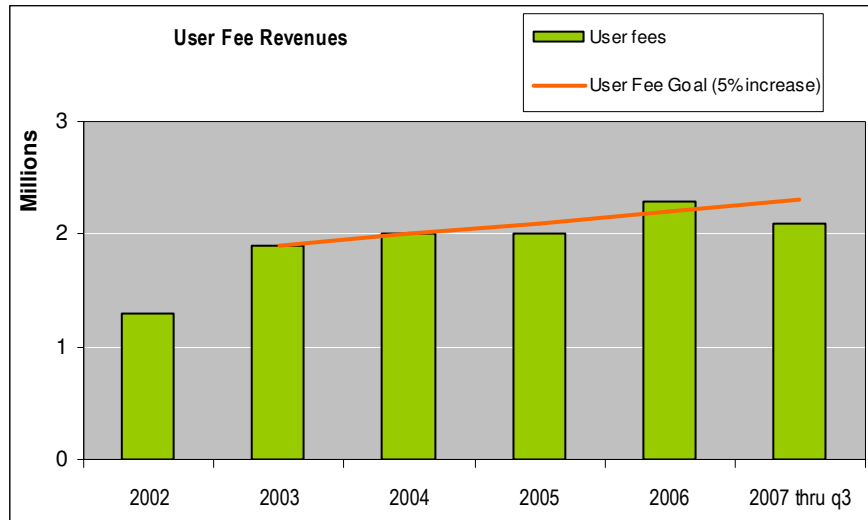
Through the Partnership for Parks initiative, the Division aggressively pursues mutually beneficial agreements with other entities and generates revenue through the following opportunities:

1. Maximizing revenue from existing assets
2. Establishing corporate sponsorships, naming rights, and other contributions
3. Pursuing gifts, bequests and legacy donations
4. Evaluating system inventory opportunities on King County lands to benefit the Division

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Through the end of the 3rd quarter of 2007, the Division received \$2.1 million in enterprise and entrepreneurial revenues, including the \$500,000 donation from Starbucks Coffee Company for the White Center Heights Park makeover project (see Q2 Report for details) and the \$115,000 naming rights sponsorship for the Group Health velodrome at Marymoor Park.





Third Quarter highlights include:

- ❖ In August, Starbucks Chairman Howard Schultz and director/producer Norman Lear paid a visit to the newly remodeled White Center Heights Park. Their visit was filmed as part of the award-winning Sundance Channel series “The Iconoclasts”, which first aired on November 15, 2007. The episode chronicles Schultz’s efforts to establish the Starbucks Coffee Company and to incorporate community philanthropy as a corporate value. In the episode, Schultz and Lear tour the park and discuss the importance of engaging community and building places where friends and families can gather and enjoy the outdoors.
- ❖ User fees are up, due in large part to revenues from Marymoor Park’s four newly renovated artificial turf soccer fields.
- ❖ Marymoor Park has begun to emphasize parking fee collection, which has lead to an increase in parking revenue compared to the same period of 2006.
- ❖ Revenue from the Concerts at Marymoor series is similar to 2006; this has become a steady source of entrepreneurial revenue for the Division. Revenue from direct ticket sales at Marymoor increased from 2006.
- ❖ The Division received the \$10,000 sponsorship payment from First Tech Credit Union for the summer Movies@Marymoor series. Although hampered by a rainy summer, the Movies@Marymoor series presented six movies at MacNair Activity Field, averaging some 600 guests per movie.

- ❖ The Group Health Velodrome at Marymoor Park hosted the popular Friday Night Races throughout the summer and was also the site of the FSA Grand Prix and Northwest Velodrome Championships, which featured some of the best cyclists in the US. The event, which was held in July, is a qualifier for the US National Track Cycling Championships in October in Los Angeles. This sponsorship funding from Group Health is in addition to the velodrome naming rights revenue.
- ❖ On Labor Day weekend, Tolt-MacDonald Park and Campground inaugurated six yurts available for public rental. The yurts have been a popular addition the park, both in terms of strong initial rentals and in attracting the attention of hikers, mountain bikers, and other park users.

Pursuing Gifts, Bequests, and Donations

- ❖ Grants update:
 - The Division was awarded \$75,000 from the National Recreation Trails Program (N RTP) to support maintenance of our backcountry trails. This grant will be received in 2008.
 - The Division submitted three grant applications for \$150,000 each to the Youth Athletic Facilities program of the state's Recreation Conservation Office to support development of athletic fields at Ravensdale and Sixty Acres South and for the Duthie Hill Mountain Bike Skills Park. The Division will be notified of grant awards in April 2008.
 - The Division was invited to submit a full proposal for a grant of \$30,000 from the US Soccer Foundation in support of the White Center soccer program. The Division will be notified of grant awards in mid-2008.

Agreements with Other Organizations **Community Partnership & Grants (CPG) Program**

The Community Partnership and Grants (CPG) Program continues to spearhead the development of partnerships that result in new facilities and amenities throughout King County. There are currently 23 partnership projects either already implemented or under development that represent \$7.4 million in CPG grants and/or CIP grant commitments. Once completed, these projects will add nearly \$40 million in leveraged community investment (cash, grants, in-kind, donations, volunteers, etc.) and will not result in any new tax-funded operations or maintenance costs. Groundbreakings and announcements have occurred throughout 2007, and several projects will be completed and operational, including the new Preston Athletic Fields and Community Park in October 2007. Below are highlights of the 23 projects underway:



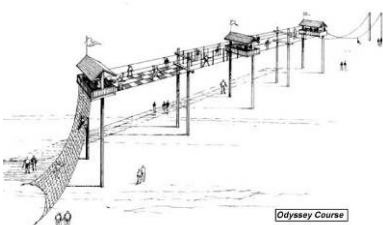
New boathouse at Marymoor Park



New Community Center at Lakewood Park



New synthetic ballfields and park in Preston



New challenge course at Cottage Lake



New whitewater takeout on Mid Fork



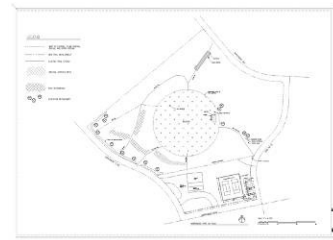
New 100 acre mountain bike skills park and riding area at Duthie Hill



Improvements/development at Ravensdale Park



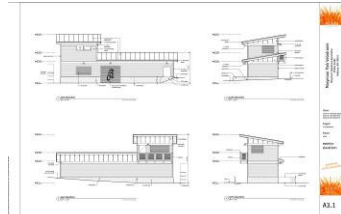
Astronomy Site at Hobart



New park in Mirrormont



Audubon trail / kiosks at Marymoor Park



New velodrome race building at Marymoor Park

For more details about CPG projects, visit:
www.kingcounty.gov/parks/cpg

King County Parks **Your**  King County
Big Backyard

Transferring Parks and Recreation Assets

Transferring local parks to cities and focusing on rural and regional programs is a key element of the Parks Business Plan. Consistent with the Parks Business Plan, the transfer of parks and pools within the Urban Growth Area (UGA) is being discussed as part of a broader county annexation strategy. The Division will also seek to transfer properties in advance of actual annexations whenever possible.

Effective the first of this year, King County transferred to the City of Enumclaw the King County Fairgrounds, Sportsman Park, Farmers Park, and two parcels across the street from the Fairgrounds. In addition, Meerwood, Sammamish Cove and Timberlake Parks were transferred to the City of Issaquah during the first quarter of 2007. The Division continues to explore options to transfer the remaining two UGA pools (Renton and Evergreen); however transfers are unlikely in 2007.

The parks and facilities that have been transferred to date include:

Park	Jurisdiction	Park	Jurisdiction
Auburn Pool	City of Auburn	Jenkins Creek Park	City of Covington
Auburndale Two Park	City of Auburn	Juanita Beach Park	City of Kirkland
Beaver Lake Park	City of Sammamish	Kent Pool	City of Kent
Bridle Crest Trail (Redmond)	City of Redmond	King County Fairgrounds	City of Enumclaw
Coal Creek Park	City of Bellevue	Lake Burien School Site	City of Burien
Des Moines Creek Park	City of SeaTac	Lake Heights Park	City of Bellevue
East Auburn Athletic Fields	City of Auburn	Lake Sawyer Park	City of Black Diamond
Eastgate Park	City of Bellevue	Lake Wilderness Park	City of Maple Valley
Enumclaw Golf Course	City of Enumclaw	Lea Hill Park	City of Auburn
Enumclaw Pool	City of Enumclaw	Lewis Creek Natural Area	City of Issaquah
Farmers Park	City of Enumclaw	Luther Burbank Park	City of Mercer Island
Federal Way Pool	City of Federal Way	Manor Hill Park	City of Bellevue
Fort Dent Park	City of Tukwila	Meerwood Park	City of Issaquah
Grandview Park	City of SeaTac	Mercer Island Pool	City of Mercer Island & Northwest Center
		Mt. Rainier Pool	Cities of Des Moines & Normandy Park, & Highline School District

The parks and facilities that have been transferred to date include (list cont'd):

Park	Jurisdiction
Northshore Pool	Northwest Center
OO Denny Park	City of Seattle
Redmond Pool	Northwest Center
Salmon Creek Park	City of Burien
Salmon Creek Waterway	City of Burien
Sammamish Cove	City of Issaquah
Shamrock Park	Si View Metropolitan Park District
Si View Park	Si View Metropolitan Park District
Si View Pool	Si View Metropolitan Park District
Slough House Park	City of Redmond
South Central Pool	City of Tukwila
South Park Farm	City of Seattle
Sportsman Park	City of Enumclaw
Tahoma Pool	City of Covington
Three Forks Natural Area	City of Snoqualmie
Timberlake Park	City of Issaquah

The Division continues to work with cities and parks districts on the transfer of the remaining UGA facilities, including:

Park	Jurisdiction
Bridle Crest Trail	City of Bellevue
West Hill Park	City of Bothell
Juanita Triangle	Finn Hill Park and Recreation District
Juanita Heights Park	Finn Hill Park and Recreation District
Klahanie Park	City of Issaquah
Swamp Creek	City of Kenmore
Inglewood Wetlands	City of Kenmore
Kingsgate Park	City of Kirkland
Windsor Vista Park	City of Kirkland

Park	Jurisdiction
132 nd Square Park	City of Kirkland
Tollgate Farm – middle site	City of North Bend
Cascade Park	City of Renton
Maplewood Park	City of Renton
May Creek Park	City of Renton
Sierra Heights / Honey Dew Park	City of Renton
Renton Pool	City of Renton
Soaring Eagle (30 acre portion)	City of Sammamish
Sunset Playfield	City of SeaTac

In addition to the transfer agreements and efforts identified above, the county has long-term lease agreements for operations of the following facilities:

Facility	Organization
Gold Greek Lodge	Operated by Boys & Girls Club of King County
West Hill Community Center	Operated by Boys & Girls Club of King County

Community Outreach and Involvement



Although volunteer events tend to slow down over the summer, the Division is fortunate enough to have dedicated volunteers who make time in their busy summer schedules to help care for our parks, trails and natural areas. During the 3rd quarter of 2007, there were 39 volunteer events that involved 1,110 volunteers who provided some 5,380 hours of service.

Third Quarter highlights include:

- ❖ At this year's United Way "Day of Caring", King County Parks worked with Microsoft, whose 400 employees provided nearly 2,060 volunteer hours working at the greenhouse, weeding the Bird Loop Trail at Marymoor Park, and doing trail and habitat restoration at Cavanaugh Pond, Taylor Mountain, Redtown Meadow on Cougar Mountain, Soaring Eagle and along the Sammamish River Trail.
- ❖ Another "Day of Caring" event involved the Woodinville Sammamish ReLeaf project, where 116 volunteers worked for 348 hours to plant native plants, remove invasive species, and mulch the Sammamish River Trail. This event also involved partners such as the City of Woodinville, Willows Lodge, REI, and the Washington Native Plant Society.
- ❖ A very active and hardworking neighborhood group constructed new playground equipment and did general maintenance at 132nd Square Park. Their weekend effort brought out almost 50 neighbors to care for the park.
- ❖ This year, the Concerts at Marymoor series launched a pilot recycling project in conjunction with King County's Solid Waste Division. Through the King County Master Recycler Composter (MRC) program, MRC volunteers worked at every concert to educate concert-goers on recycling and how to properly discard their food and drink containers.

- ❖ Three new Parks and Trails Ambassadors joined the program during the third quarter and will cover Moss Lake Natural Area, Hyde Lake Park, and Vashon Island.
- ❖ White Center Heights Park continues to attract community interest, as some 60 Starbucks employees provided much-needed blackberry removal. This effort helped build on the work accomplished during June's park makeover project.
- ❖ The Evergreen Athletic Field was the site of a July soccer match between 30 White Center teens and a dozen King County Deputies and Seattle Police officers. It was a close match, but in the end, the teens were victorious.

Reconnecting People to Their Parks: Outreach and Reconnecting Strategy

www.parksfeedback.com

Launched in December 2005 as a pilot program and expanded to the entire parks system in the second quarter of 2006, *parksfeedback.com* has proven to be an extremely useful customer feedback tool connecting citizens and user groups with the Division.

Through *parksfeedback.com*, we receive a variety of compliments, suggestions, feedback, and notifications, which are delivered directly to the email inboxes of Division staff. While the feedback system does not provide a statistical gauge for constituent satisfaction, it is a powerful tool that asks a series of multiple choice questions and allows users to write in comments and include their email or telephone number to receive a direct response from the Division.

Some examples of comments received during the third quarter include:

"Thanks for providing the "compostable corn" cups at the beer garden at Marymoor Park. I can only imagine how much waste is averted by not using traditional plastic cups....it was also nice to have a crew of people out helping to educate concert goers about the cups and direct them where to dispose of them."

"Just a note of thanks for a great little map: "REGIONAL TRAILS" in King County area and parks. Not only is it a great little well-designed map, but the details are such that it is really useful."

The notifications sent by park users through the *parksfeedback.com* tool also serves as "eyes and ears on the ground" for Parks' 25,000 acres of park properties. This means that even with the current, smaller staffing levels, the Division has been able to remain connected with citizens and communicate promptly and directly with them.

Communications from park users have helped the Division to identify problem areas in parks and along trails, such as incidents of graffiti and vandalism, and to respond to citizens' questions and concerns. This has also assisted the Division in prioritizing short, medium and long-term maintenance issues and capital improvement needs.

Here are a few examples of communications received in the third quarter of 2007 and how the Division was able to respond:

Comment: *"Love the new covered area and tables/BBQs [at Dockton Park] but why was the sink removed? It was wonderful having a sink right next to the BBQs for clean up and such. With all the plumbing already there, it would seem like it would have been easy to incorporate a sink in the new area."*

The Division was able to respond in timely and satisfactory manner to the park user, with an email explaining the rationale behind the decision to remove the sink - the old sink drained directly into Puget Sound, which is no longer permissible.

Comment: *"I would be interested in renting a bike at Marymoor, under the Dasani Blue Bike Program. How do I sign up, and where are the bikes? Thank you."*

The Division responded by providing all the details of registering for the program and a reminder that riders must provide their own helmets.